

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-17 (Canceled).

18. (Currently Amended) The A battery case in which an iron-nickel diffusion layer is formed as a lower layer of a metal from which the battery case is formed,

and a diffusion layer of a nickel-cobalt-phosphorus alloy is formed as an upper layer on ~~the~~ an inner side of the metal of the battery case, and

an iron-nickel diffusion layer is formed as a lower layer and a nickel layer is formed as an upper layer on the outer side of the metal of the battery case.

19. (Currently Amended) The A battery case in which an iron-nickel diffusion layer is formed as a lower layer of a metal from which the battery case is formed,

a nickel layer is formed as an intermediate layer and a diffusion layer of a nickel-cobalt-phosphorus alloy is formed as an upper layer on the inner side of the metal of the battery case, and

an iron-nickel diffusion layer is formed as a lower layer and a nickel layer is formed as an upper layer on the outer side of the metal of the battery case.

20. (Currently Amended) The A surface treated steel sheet for a battery case ~~according to any one of claims 17 to 19,~~ comprising a diffusion layer of a nickel-cobalt-phosphorus alloy, wherein the cobalt content is within a range from 5 to 30% by weight and the phosphorus content is within a range from 1 to 12% by weight in the nickel-cobalt-phosphorus alloy.

21 - 22. (Cancelled).